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Docket No.: 146712016200

Application No.: 10/609,310

2

PENDING CLAIMS

This listing of claims describes the currently pending claims in the application:

Claim 1 (previously presented): An electric motor comprising:

- a fixed shaft;
- a first conical bearing integral with a first end of the shaft;
- a second conical bearing fixed to a second end of the shaft;
- a rotatable sleeve disposed around the shaft and the first and second conical bearings;
- a vented plenum separating the first and second conical bearings wherein the vented plenum extends from the shaft through the sleeve to an outer surface of the sleeve; and
- asymmetric grooves on the bearings pumping toward the outer ends of the shaft.

Claim 2 (previously presented): The electric motor according to claim 1, further comprising:

- a fluid between the first and second conical bearings and the sleeve.

Claim 3 (original): The electric motor according to claim 2, wherein each of said first and second conical bearings is sealed by a capillary seal at a wider end of the bearing.

Claim 4 (original): The electric motor according to claim 3, wherein the capillary seal defines a fluid reservoir.

Claim 5 (original): The electric motor according to claim 4, wherein the capillary seal is a centrifugal capillary seal.

pa-1101254

Application No.: 10/609,310

3

Docket No.: 146712016200

Claim 6 (withdrawn): The electric motor according to claim 5, wherein at least one conical bearing is formed integral with the shaft and includes an opening therein extending to an end of the shaft.

Claim 7 (original): The electric motor according to claim 5, wherein the grooves comprise fluid dynamic grooves circumscribing the surface of the bearing.

Claim 8 (original): The electric motor according to claim 7, wherein the fluid dynamic grooves comprise an asymmetric V-shaped pattern.

Claim 9 (cancelled)

Claim 10 (withdrawn): The electric motor according to claim 8, wherein the vented plenum extends thru the shaft side wall through the shaft to the exterior of the motor.

Claim 11 (previously presented): The electric motor according to claim 3, wherein said first and second conical bearings further comprise pumping grooves that pump fluid toward the reservoirs defined by the capillary seals.

Claim 12 (original): The electric motor according to claim 11, wherein the pumping grooves are asymmetric extensions of the fluid dynamic grooves.

Claim 13 (previously presented): A disk drive motor comprising:

means for rotatably supporting at least one disk;

a stationary shaft disposed through the supporting means in a spaced apart relation;

a first conical bearing integral with the shaft, and a second conical bearing supported on the shaft;

pa-1101254

Application No.: 10/609,310

4

Docket No.: 146712016200

an asymmetric groove pattern on the conical bearings pumping toward opposite ends of the shaft and vent means separating the first and second conical bearings, wherein the vent means extends through a rotatable sleeve to an outer surface of the sleeve.

Claim 14 (original): The disk drive motor according to claim 13, wherein the means for rotatably supporting the at least one disk further comprises:

a hub;

a magnet assembly mounted to the hub; and

a stator disposed proximate the magnet assembly to induce rotation of the hub relative to the stationary shaft.

Claim 15 (original): The disk drive motor according to claim 14, further comprising a fluid between the stationary shaft and the means for supporting the at least one disk.

Claim 16 (original): The disc drive motor according to claim 15 wherein the vent means comprise a vented plenum extending through the sleeve.

Claim 17 (withdrawn): The electric motor according to claim 15 wherein the vented plenum extends thru the shaft side wall and through the shaft to the exterior of the motor.

Claim 18 (original): The electric motor according to claim 15, wherein each of said first and second conical bearings is sealed by a capillary seal at a wider end of the bearing.

Claim 19 (original): The electric motor according to claim 18, wherein the capillary seal is a centrifugal capillary seal.

Claim 20 (cancelled)

pa-1101254

Application No.: 10/609,310

5

Docket No.: 146712016200

Claim 20 (cancelled)

Claim 21 (withdrawn): The electric motor according to claim 15, wherein the vented plenum extends thru the shaft side wall through the shaft to the exterior of the motor.

Claim 22 (original): The electric motor according to claim 15, wherein said first and second conical bearings further comprise pumping grooves that pump fluid toward the reservoirs defined by the capillary seals.

Claim 23 (previously presented): The electric motor according to claim 15, wherein the grooves comprise fluid dynamic grooves circumscribing the surface of the bearing.

Claim 24 (previously presented): The electric motor according to claim 15, wherein the vented plenum extends from the shaft through the sleeve to an outer surface of the sleeve.

pa-1101254